

SER

Shall I the neighbours nightly rest invade,
At her deaf doors, with some vile *serenade*? *Dryden.*
Will. fancies he never should have been the man he is, had
not he broke windows, and disturbed honest people with his
midnight *serenades*, when he was a young fellow. *Adiſon.*
To SERENADE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To entertain with
nocturnal muſick.
He continued to *serenade* her every morning, 'till the queen
was charmed with his harmony. *Spectator.*
SERENE. *adj.* [*ſerein*, French; *ſerenus*, Latin.]
1. Calm; placid; quiet.
Spirits live inſpber'd
In regions mild, of calm and *serene* air. *Milton.*
The moon, *serene* in glory, mounts the ſky. *Pope.*
2. Unruffled; undiſturbed; even of temper; peaceful or calm of
mind; ſhewing a calm mind.
There wanted yet a creature might erect
His ſtature, and upright with front *serene* *Milton.*
Govern the reſt.
Exciting them, by a due remembrance of all that is paſt,
unto future circumſpection, and a *serene* expectation of the
future life. *Greav's Coſmoſt.*
Gutta SERENA. *n. f.* An obſtruction in the optick nerve.
Theſe eyes that roll in vain, *Milton.*
So thick a drop *serene* hath quench'd their orbs.
SERENE. *n. f.* [from the adjective.] A calm damp evening.
Where ever death doth pleaſe t' appear,
Seas, *serenes*, ſwonds, ſhot, ſickneſs, all are there. *Ben. Johnſ.*
To SERENE. *v. a.* [*ſerener*, French; *ſereno*, Latin.]
1. To calm; to quiet.
2. To clear; to brighten. Not proper.
Take care
Thy muddy bevrage to *serene*, and drive
Precipitant the baſer roſy lees. *Philips.*
SERENELY. *adv.* [from *serene*.]
1. Calmly; quietly.
The ſetting ſun now ſhone *serenely* bright. *Pope.*
2. With unruffled temper; coolly.
Whatever practical rule is generally broken, cannot be ſup-
poſed innate; it being impoſſible that men would, without
ſhame or fear, confidently and *serenely* break a rule, which they
could not but evidently know that God had ſet up. *Locke.*
The nymph did like the ſcene appear,
Serenely pleaſant, calmly fair: *Prior.*
Soft fell her words as flew the air.
SERENESS. *n. f.* [from *serene*.] Serenity.
SERENITUDE. *n. f.* [from *serene*.] Calmneſs; coolneſs of
mind. Not in uſe.
From the equal diſtribution of the phlegmatick humour,
will flow quietude and *serenitude* in the affections. *Watſon.*
SERENITY. *n. f.* [*ſerenitas*, Fr. from *ſerenus*, Latin.]
1. Calmneſs; temperance.
In the conſtitution of a perpetual equinox, the beſt part of
the globe would be deſolate; and as to that little that would
be inhabited, there is no reaſon to expect that it would con-
ſtantly enjoy that admired calm and *serenity*. *Bentley.*
Pure *serenity* apace
Induces thought, and contemplation ſtill. *Thomſon.*
2. Peace; quietneſs; not diſturbance.
A general peace and *serenity* newly ſucceeded a general
trouble and cloud throughout all his kingdoms. *Temple.*
3. Evenneſs of temper; coolneſs of mind.
I cannot ſee how any men ſhould ever tranſgreſs thoſe mor-
al rules, with confidence and *serenity*, were they innate, and
ſtamped upon their minds. *Locke.*
SERGE. *n. f.* [*ſerge*, French; *xerxa*, Spaniſh, which *Covarru-*
vias derives from *xirica*, Arabick; *Skinner* from *ſerge*, Ger-
man. a mat.] A kind of cloth.
The ſame wool one man felts into a hat, another weaves
into cloth, another into kerſey or *serge*, and another into
arras. *Hale.*
Ye weavers, all your ſhuttles throw,
And bid broad-cloaths and *serges* grow. *Gay.*
SERGEANT. *n. f.* [*ſerjent*, French; *ſergente*, Italian, from
ſervicus, Latin.]
1. An officer whoſe buſineſs it is to execute the commands of
magiſtrates.
Had I but time, as this fell *ſerjeant*, death,
Is ſtrict in his arreſt, oh, I could tell. *Shakeſp. Hamlet.*
When it was day the magiſtrates ſent the *ſerjeants*, ſaying,
let theſe men go. *Adiſ. xvi. 35.*
2. A petty officer in the army.
This is the *ſerjeant*,
Who, like a good and hardy ſoldier, fought. *Shakeſp. Macb.*
3. A lawyer of the higheſt rank under a judge.
None ſhould be made *ſerjeants*, but ſuch as probably might
be held fit to be judges afterwards. *Bacon.*
4. It is a title given to ſome of the king's ſervants: as, *ſerjeant*
chirurgeons.
SERGEANTRY. *n. f.* [from *ſerjeant*.]
Grand *ſerjeantry* is that where one holdeth lands of the
king by ſervice, which he ought to do in his own perſon unto
him: as to bear the king's banner or his ſpear, or to lead his

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hoſt, or to be his maſhal, or to blow a horn, when he ſeeth
his enemies invade the land; or to find a man at arms to fight
within the four ſeas, or eſſe to do it himſelf; or to bear the
king's ſword before him at his coronation, or on that day to
be his fewer, carver, butler, or chamberlain. Petit *ſerjeantry*
is where a man holdeth land of the king, to yield him yearly
ſome ſmall thing toward his wars: as a ſword, dagger, bow,
knife, ſpear, pair of gloves of mail, a pair of ſpurs, or ſuch
like. *Croſſet.*
SERGEANTSHIP. *n. f.* [from *ſerjeant*.] The office of a ſerjeant.
SERIES. *n. f.* [*ſerie*, Fr. *ſeries*, Latin.]
1. Sequence; order.
Draw out that antecedent, by reflecting briefly upon the text
as it lies in the *ſeries* of the epistle. *Word of Inſidelity*
The chaſms of the correſpondence I cannot ſupply, having
deſtroyed too many letters to preſerve any *ſeries*. *Pope.*
2. Succeſſion; courſe.
This is the *ſeries* of perpetual woe,
Which thou, alas, and thine are born to know. *Pope.*
SERIOUS. *adj.* [*ſerious*, Fr. *ſerius*, Latin.]
1. Grave; ſolemn; not volatile; not light of behav' *ad.*
2. Important; weighty; not trifling.
I'll hence to London on a *ſerious* matter. *Shakeſp. H. VI.*
There's nothing *ſerious* in mortality;
All is but toys. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*
SERIOUSLY. *adv.* [from *ſerious*.] Gravely; ſolemnly; in
earnest; without levity.
It cannot but be matter of very dreadful conſideration to
any one, ſober and in his wits, to think *ſeriously* with himſelf,
what horror and conſuſion muſt needs ſurprize that man, at
the laſt day of account, who had led his whole life by one
rule, when God intends to judge him by another. *South.*
All laugh to find
Unthinking plainneſs ſo o'erſpread thy mind,
That thou couldſt *ſeriously* perſuade the crowd
To keep their oaths, and to believe a god. *Dryden.*
Juſtin Martyr, Tertullian, Lactantius, and Arnobius, tell
us, that this martyrdom fiſt of all made them *ſeriously* in-
quiſitive into that religion, which could endure the mind with ſo
much ſtrength, and overcome the fear of death, nay, raiſe an
earnest deſire of it, though it appeared in all its terrors. *Adiſ.*
SERIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *ſerious*.] Gravity; ſolemnity; ear-
neſt attention.
That ſpirit of religion and *ſeriousneſs* vaniſhed all at once,
and a ſpirit of libertiniſm and prophanenſs ſtarted up in the
room of it. *Aſterbury's Sermon.*
The youth was received at the door by a ſervant, who then
conducted him with great ſilence and *ſeriousneſs* to a long gal-
lery, which was darkened at noon-day. *Adiſon's Spectator.*
SARMOCINATOR. *n. f.* [*ſermocinator*, Latin.] The act or
practice of making ſpeeches.
SARMOCINATOR. *n. f.* [*ſermocinator*, Latin.] A preacher; a
ſpeechmaker.
Theſe obſtrepereous *ſermocinators* make eaſy impreſſion upon
the minds of the vulgar. *Howell.*
SERMON. *n. f.* [*ſermon*, Fr. *ſermo*, Lat.] A diſcourſe of inſtruc-
tion pronounced by a divine for the edification of the people.
As for our *ſermons*, be they never ſo found and perfect, God's
word they are not, as the *ſermons* of the prophets were; no,
they are but ambiguouſly termed his word, becauſe his word is
commonly the ſubject whereof they treat, and muſt be the
rule whereby they are framed. *Heſter.*
This our life, exempt from publick haunt,
Finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks,
Sermons in ſtones, and good in every thing. *Shakeſp. Lear.*
In his *ſermons* unto the ſoldiers, and in open talk with the
nobility, it ſhould ſeem that he himſelf had been enough to
have overthrowen the Turks. *Knotley's Hiſtory of the Turks.*
Sermons he heard, yet not ſo many
As left no time to praſtice any;
He heard them reverently, and then
His praſtice preach'd them o'er again. *Croſſet.*
Many, while they have preached Chriſt in their *ſermons*,
have read a lecture of atheiſm in their praſtice. *South.*
His preaching much, but more his praſtice wrought;
A living *ſermon* of the truths he taught. *Dryden.*
To SERMON. *v. a.* [*ſermoner*, Fr. from the noun.]
1. To diſcourſe as in a ſermon.
Some would rather have good diſcipline delivered plainly by
way of precept, or *ſermon'd* at large, than thus cloudily in-
wrapped in allegorical devices. *Spenser.*
2. To tutor; to teach dogmatically; to leſſon.
Come, *ſermon* me no farther:
No villainous bounty yet hath paſt my heart. *Shak. Timon.*
SERMOUNTAIN, or *Serli*. *n. f.* [*ſerli*, Lat.] A plant.
It hath a roſe and umbellated flower, conſiſting of ſeveral
leaves, which are ranged orbicularly, and reſt on the empaſe-
ment, which becomes a fruit compoſed of two large oblong
furrowed ſeeds, having foliaceous ridges on one ſide. To
theſe notes muſt be added, that the lobes of the leaves are
large, long, and intire, excepting their extremity, where they
are ſlightly cut into three parts. *Miller.*

SERO'SITY.

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SERO'SITY. *n. f.* [*ſeroſitas*, Fr.] Thin, or watery part of the
blood.
In theſe the ſalt and lixiviated *ſeroſity* is divided between the
guts and the bladder; but it remains undivided in birds. *Brown.*
The tumour of the throat, which occaſions the difficulty of
ſwallowing and breathing, proceeds from a *ſeroſity* obſtructing
the glands, which may be watery, ædematole, and ſchirrous,
according to the viſcoſity of the humour. *Arbuthnot.*
SEROUS. *adj.* [*ſerous*, French; *ſerous*, Latin.]
1. Thin; watery. Uſed of the part of the blood which ſepa-
rates in congelation from the gromous or red part.
2. Adapted to the ſerum.
This diſeaſe is commonly an extravafation of ſerum, re-
ceived in ſome cavity of the body; for there may be alſo a
dropſy by a dilatation of the *ſerous* veſſels, as that in the ova-
rium. *Arbuthnot on Diet.*
SERPENT. *n. f.* [*ſerpens*, Latin.] An animal that moves
by undulation without legs. They are often venomous. They
are divided into two kinds; the *viper*, which brings young,
and the *ſnake*, that lays eggs.
She was arrayed all in lily white,
And in her right hand bore a cup of gold,
With wine and water filled up to the height;
In which a *ſerpent* did himſelf enfold,
That horror made to all that did behold. *Fairy Queen.*
She ſtruck me with her tongue,
Moſt *ſerpent* like, upon the very heart. *Shakeſp. K. Lear.*
They, or under ground, or circuit wide,
With *ſerpent* error wand'ring, to think their way. *Milton.*
Haply piercing through the dark diſguiſe,
The chief I challeng'd: he whoſe praſtice wit
Knew all the *ſerpent* mazes of deceit,
Eludes my ſearch. *Pope's Odyſſey.*
SERPENTINE. *adj.* [*ſerpentinus*, Lat. from *ſerpens*.]
1. Reſembling a ſerpent.
I craved of him to lead me to the top of this rock, with
meaning to free him from ſo *ſerpentine* a companion as I
am. *Sidney.*
This of ours is deſcribed with legs, wings, a *ſerpentine* and
winding tail, and a creſt or comb ſomewhat like a cock. *Brown.*
Nothing wants, but that thy ſhape
Like his, and colour *ſerpentine*, may ſhew
Thy inward fraud. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt.*
The figures and their parts ought to have a *ſerpentine* and
flaming form naturally: theſe ſorts of outlines have, I know
not what of life and ſeeming motion in them, which very
much reſembles the activity of the flame and ſerpent. *Dryden.*
2. Winding like a ſerpent; ſinuiſious.
Nor can the ſun
Perſect a circle, or maintain his way
He inch direct; but where he roſe to-day
He comes no more, but with a cozening line
Steals by that point, and ſo is *ſerpentine*. *Donne.*
His hand the adorned firmament diſplay'd,
Thoſe *ſerpentine*, yet conſtant motions made. *Sandys.*
How many ſpacious countries does the Rhine,
In winding banks, and mazes *ſerpentine*,
Traverſe, before he ſplits in Belgia's plain,
And, loſt in ſand, creeps to the German main? *Blackmore.*
SERPENTINE. *n. f.* An herb. *Ainſworth.*
SERPENTINE STONE. *n. f.*
There were three ſpecies of this ſtone known among the
ancients, all reſembling one another, and celebrated for the
ſame virtues. They were all of the marble kind: the one
was green, variegated with ſpots of black, thence called the
black ophites; another, called the white ophites, was green
alſo, but variegated with ſpots of white: the third was called
tephria, and was of a grey colour, variegated with ſmall black
ſpots. The firſt ſpecies was chiefly uſed in medicine, and
found by the ancients only in Egypt; but it is frequent in the
deſerts of Arabia, in the iſlands of the Archipelago, in Italy,
and we have whole quarries of it in Wales. The ancients tell
us, that it was a certain remedy againſt the poiſon of the bite
of ſerpents; but it is now juſtly rejected. *Hill's Mat. Med.*
Accept in good part a bottle made of a *ſerpentine ſtone*,
which hath the quality to give any wine or water, that ſhall be
infuſed therein for four and twenty hours, the taſte and opera-
tion of the ſpaw-water, and is very medicinable for the cure
of the ſpleen and gravel. *Watt.*
SERPENTS TONGUE. *n. f.* An herb. *Ainſworth.*
SERPET. *n. f.* A batket. *Ainſworth.*
SERPIGINOUS. *adj.* [from *ſerpigo*, Latin.] Diſeaſed with a
ſerpigo.
The ſkin behind her ear downwards became *ſerpiginous*, and
was covered with white ſcales. *Wiſeman.*
SERPIGO. *n. f.* [Latin.] A kind of tetter.
For thy own bowels, which do call thee fire,
Do curſe the gout, *ſerpigo*, and the rheum,
For ending thee no ſooner. *Shakeſp. Lear.*
She had a node with pains on her right leg, and a *ſerpigo* on
her right hand. *Wiſeman.*
To SERRE. *v. a.* [*ſerrer*, French.] To drive hard together; to

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crowd into a little ſpace. Not received into uſe, nor deſerving
reception.
The frowning and knitting of the brows is a gathering or
ſerring of the ſpirits, to reſiſt in ſome meaſure; and alſo this
knitting will follow upon earneſt ſtudy, though it be with-
out diſlike. *Bacon's Nat. Hiſtory.*
Heat attenuates and ſends forth the ſpirit of a body, and
upon that the more groſs parts contract and *ſerr* themſelves
together. *Bacon.*
SERRATE. *adj.* [*ſerratus*, Latin.] Formed with jags or
SERRATED. } indentures like the edge of a ſaw.
All that have *ſerrate* teeth are carnivorous. *Ray.*
The common heron hath long legs for wading, a long neck
anſwerable thereto to reach prey, a wide throat to pouch it,
and long toes with ſtrong hooked talons, one of which is re-
markably *ſerrate* on the edge. *Derham's Phyſico-Theology.*
This ſtick is uſually knotted, and always armed: one of
them with a curious ſhark's tooth near an inch long, and in-
dentured or *ſerrated* on both edges: a ſcurvy weapon. *Greav.*
SERRATION. *n. f.* [from *ſerra*, Latin.] Formation in the
ſhape of a ſaw.
SERRATURE. *n. f.* [from *ſerra*, Latin.] Indenture like teeth
of ſaws.
Theſe are *ſerrated* on the edges; but the *ſerratures* are
deeper and groſſer than in any of the reſt. *Woodward.*
To SERRY. *v. a.* [*ſerrer*, French; *ſerrato*, Italian.] To preſs
cloſe; to drive hard together. For *ſerry* Bacon uſes *ſerr*; but
neither *ſerr* nor *ſerry* are received.
With them roſe
A foreſt huge of ſpears; and thronging helms
Appear'd, and *ſerr'd* ſhields in thick array,
Of death immeaſurable. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt.*
Foul diſſipation follow'd, and fore'd rout;
Nor ſerv'd it to relax their *ſerr'd* files. *Milton's Par. Loſt.*
SERVANT. *n. f.* [*ſervant*, French; *ſervus*, Latin.]
1. One who attends another, and acts at his command. The
correlative of maſter.
We are one in fortune; both
Fell by our *ſervants*, by thoſe men we lov'd moſt. *Shakeſp.*
I had rather be a country *ſervant* maid,
Than a great queen with this condition. *Shak. R. III.*
He diſdain'd not
Thenceforth the form of *ſervant* to aſſume. *Milton.*
For maſter or for *ſervant* here to call
Was all alike, where only two were all. *Dryden.*
2. One in a ſtate of ſubjection. Unuſual.
Being unprepar'd,
Our will became the *ſervant* to defect,
Which eſe ſhould free have wrong'd. *Shak. Macbeth.*
3. A word of civility uſed to ſuperiours or equals.
This ſubjection, due from all men to all men, is ſomething
more than the compliment of courſe, when our betters tell us
they are our humble *ſervants*, but underſtand us to be their
ſlaves. *Swift.*
To SERVANT. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To ſubject. Not in uſe.
My affairs
Are *ſervanted* to others: though I owe
My revenge properly, remiſſion lies
In Volſcan breads. *Shakeſp. Coriolanus.*
To SERVE. *v. a.* [*ſervir*, French; *ſervio*, Latin.]
1. To attend at command.
Beauſe thou art my brother, ſhould'ſt thou therefore *ſerve*
me for nought? *Gen. xxix. 15.*
A goddeſs among gods ador'd, and *ſerv'd*
By angels numberleſs, thy daily train. *Milton.*
2. To obey ſervilely or meanly.
When wealthy, ſhew thy wiſdom not to be
To wealth a ſervant, but make wealth *ſerve* thee. *Denham.*
3. To ſupply with food ceremoniouſly.
Others, pamper'd in their ſhameleſs pride,
Are *ſerv'd* in plate, and in their chariots ride. *Dryden.*
4. To bring as a menial attendant.
Bid them cover the table, *ſerve* in the meat, and we will
come in to dinner. *Shakeſp. Merch. of Venice.*
Soon after our dinner was *ſerv'd* in, which was right good
viands, both for bread and meat: we had alſo drink of three
ſorts, all wholeſome and good. *Bacon.*
Beſmear'd with the horrid juice of ſepia, they danced a lit-
tle in phantaſtick poſtures, retired a while, and then returned
ſerving up a banquet as at ſolemn funerals. *Taylor.*
Some part he roaſts; then *ſerves* it up ſo deſt,
And bids me welcome to this humble feaſt:
Mov'd with diſdain,
I with avenging flames the palace burn'd. *Dryden.*
The ſame meſs ſhould be *ſerv'd* up again for ſupper, and
breakfaſt next morning. *A ſubſt. Hiſtory of John Bull.*
5. To be ſubſervient or ſubordinate to.
Bodies bright and greater ſhould not *ſerve*
The leſs not bright. *Milton.*
6. To ſupply with any thing.
They that *ſerve* the city, ſhall *ſerve* it out of all the tribes
of Iſrael. *Ezek. xlviii. 10.*
7. To